

NAVY NEWS



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June 6, 1997

Navy-Marine Corps Team to the rescue

Kearsarge/22nd MEU make three evacs

WASHINGTON (NWSA) — More than 1,250 people were evacuated from Sierra Leone June 3 by Marine helicopters and taken to *USS Kearsarge* (LHD 3), operating off the coast of western Africa. *Kearsarge* and the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit (SOC) evacuated more than 2,500 people, including 451 U.S. citizens, since Operation Noble Obelisk began May 30.

The last group of evacuees included people from 21 countries, including at least 38 Americans, 200 Britons and several hundred children. The group was transported to Conakry, the capital of Guinea, north of Sierra Leone. One woman evacuated was in labor. She was among the first transported to Conakry where the baby was born.

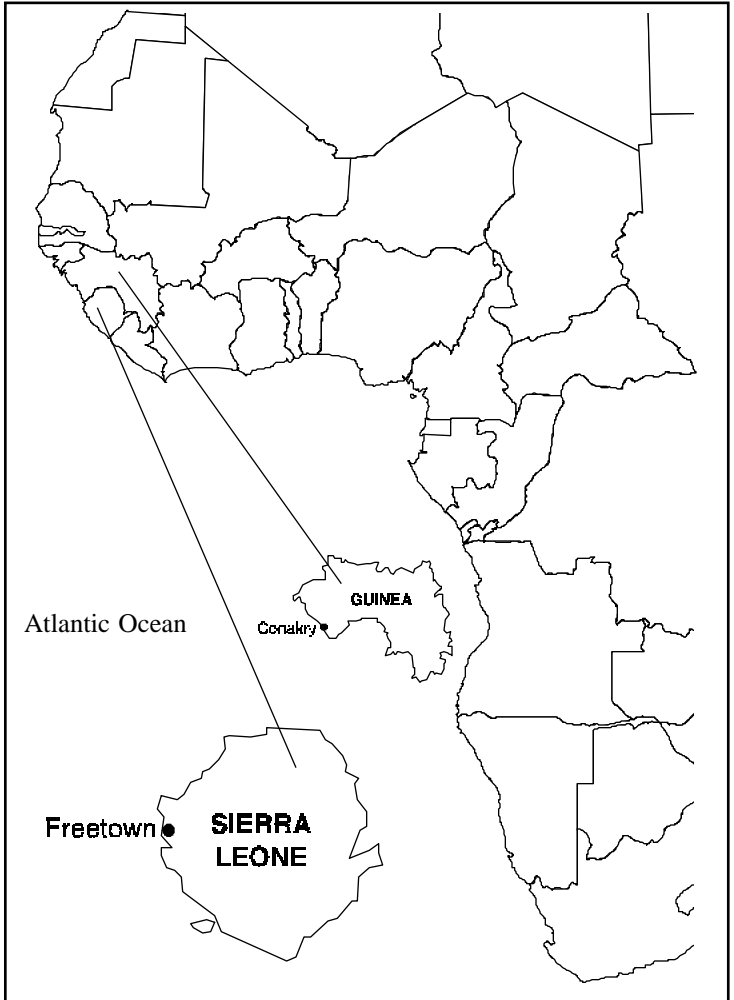
Marine COL Sam Helland, 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit commander, told reporters this mission was different from the previous two evacuations.

“The first two evacuations were conducted from the hotel in Freetown. This evacuation was conducted about three miles south [of Freetown] at a beach called Lumley Beach. As you know,” he said, “we have the flexibility to go almost anywhere in the world with a shore line. We were able to move those evacuees down to [a safer location].”

Helland said the hardest decision was choosing the right time to move. A cease-fire negotiated by the British and the U.S. State Department gave the force an opportunity to transport the civilians and their Marine rescuers safely.

“When the Navy and the Marines come in to do an evacuation such as this,” stated COL Helland, “our goal is to make sure that the people are safe and that we recover them in a safe manner.”

Sierra Leone was thrown into turmoil last month when the civilian



government was overthrown by a military coup. *Kearsarge* began evacuating Americans and other third-country nationals less than 24 hours after arriving on station May 29.

Tinker AFB Oklahoma Navy hosts CNO visit

Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Jay L. Johnson, recently visited Oklahoma-based Sailors and airmen during a trip to Tinker Air Force Base.

Admiral Johnson was the honored guest at the base's annual Communicators Banquet honoring Navy and Air Force strategic communicators.

“I'm extremely proud of the 1200 Navy men and women, civil-

ians, and contractors, all those who do the great work at Strategic Communications Wing ONE, VQ-3, and VQ-4,” said Admiral Johnson.

“I certainly understand the strategic importance of what you do, both as the Chief of Naval Operations and as a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. So, for me, it would be impossible to overstate the

(cont'd. on pg. 4)

Type 6 duty changes Jan. 1, 1988

by LT Lydia Robertson, BUPERS Public Affairs Office

WASHINGTON (NWSA) — Type 6N (neutral) duty overseas will change to Type 6 (shore) duty effective Jan. 1, 1998. The change will help maintain equitable sea/shore rotation for all Sailors and prevent gapped billets afloat.

The Bureau of Naval Personnel announced the change in NAVADMIN 133/97.

Under present policy, Type 6N duty is considered neutral duty for rotation purposes. Sea/shore rotation is based on the type duty performed prior to the Type 6N duty. A Sailor could potentially be ineligible for sea duty for up to six years. Professional development and individual advancement opportunities improve when the length of time a Sailor is away from the technical aspects of his or her rating is reduced.

Type 6N duty affects sea-intensive and undermanned ratings by moving Sailors to continental U.S. (CONUS) shore tours following their overseas shore assignment. This causes a reduction in the number of Sailors available to fill critical requirements at sea. That equates to gapped billets at sea and longer sea/shore rotation for all Sailors.

The policy takes effect Jan. 1, 1998. Personnel serving in Type 6N assignments prior to this date will not be affected — their entire tour will count as neutral duty for rotational purposes. Also, individuals in receipt of Type 6N orders or who are negotiating for Type 6N orders as of the date of NAVADMIN 133/97 will not be affected by this policy.

Type 6 duty is presently defined as duty performed in overseas land-based activities counting as shore duty for rotational purposes. The policy change does not affect personnel assigned to existing Type 3 duty (overseas duty that counts as sea duty).

Type 6N duty stations include Belgium, Bermuda, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Puerto Rico, certain locations in Australia, Japan, Okinawa, Spain and the United Kingdom.

The Enlisted Transfer Manual provides a detailed listing of Type 6N duty assignments affected by the policy change. NAVADMIN 133/97 contains further information on overseas tour extension incentive program (OTEIP) benefits and policy change details.

Summary of NAVADMINs

NAVADMIN 128-97 282354Z MAY 97 / 282354Z MAY 97 - Active Duty Promotions to the grades of Lieutenant, Line and Staff Corps.

NAVADMIN 129/97 282356Z MAY 97 - Active Duty Promotions to the Permanent Grades of Chief Warrant Officer, W-4 and Chief Warrant Officer, W-3

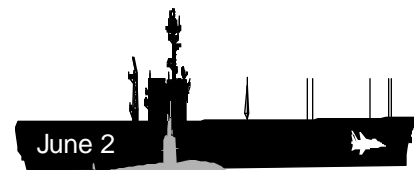
NAVADMIN 130/97 282357Z MAY 97 - Active Duty Promotions to the Permanent Grades of Captain, Commander, and Lieutenant Commander, Line and Staff Corps

NAVADMIN 131/97 292247Z MAY 97 - Naval Reserve Meritorious Service Medal Advancement Points

NAVADMIN 132/97 30011513Z MAY 97 - Samuel Eliot Morison Naval History Supplemental Scholarship

NAVADMIN 301757Z MAY 97 - Reversion of Type 6N Duty to Type 6 Shore Duty

Status of the Navy



Personnel: 395,608
active duty 211,118
civilians 231,479
Ready Reserves: 97,040
SELRES/134,439 IRR
Aircraft: 4,732
Ships: 351
Underway: 192 ships (55%)
Deployed:
113 ships; (32%)
50,213 personnel
Exercises: 9
Port Visits: 16
SSNs at Sea: 34 (48%)

Carriers/Airwings at Sea:

USS Independence: ops, west. Pacific
USS John F. Kennedy: port visit, Palma, Mediterranean
USS Constellation: ex. SOUTHERN WATCH, Arabian Gulf
USS George Washington: COMPTUEX, west. Atlantic

LHAs/LHDs/LPHs/MCS at Sea:

USS Boxer/15th MEU: ex. INFINITE MOONLIGHT 97, Red Sea
USS Kearsarge/22nd MEU: ex. NOBLE OBELISK
USS Belleau Wood: trans., S. China Sea
USS Inchon: ex. ALCUDRA 97, Mediterranean
USS Wasp: trans., west. Atlantic

Ships Assigned to the Middle East Force:

USS Paul F. Foster, *USS Ingraham*, *USS Fitzgerald*, *USS Ardent*, *USS Dextrous*, *USS Thorn*, *USS Nicholas*

Other Exercises/Operations:

BALTOPS, Eastern Atlantic
TEAMWORK SOUTH 97, Eastern Pacific
BETACOM, Mediterranean
Maritime Interception Ops, Arabian Gulf
Counter Drug Ops, Caribbean/East Pacific

Source: OPNAV Staff, OCPM

NAVNEWS



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Top Officer and Enlisted Instructors of the Year

PENSACOLA, Fla. (NWSA) — LT Anthony H. Talbert of Fleet Combat Training Center Pacific, San Diego, and Fire Controlman 1st Class Byron L. Mobley of Surface Warfare Officers School Command, Newport, R.I., have been named this year's top Navy instructors.

Talbert is a student mentor and curriculum developer for courses in Naval Tactical Data Links, the AEGIS Combat System, U.S. Surface to Air Missile Systems, Air Warfare Tactics, Theater Ballistic Missile Defense and Warnet Voice Procedures. He also trained Japan Maritime Self Defense Force personnel during their recent integrated combat systems exercise.

Active in his church's youth ministry, Talbert counsels teens and teaches confidence building self-defense classes for crime victims.

He enlisted in the Navy in 1980 and was commissioned as a

Limited Duty Officer in October 1992.

Petty Officer Mobley is a leading instructor for three courses, a master training specialist and a curriculum developer at the Surface Warfare Officers School Command.

For the past year he has served as the premier instructor for the PHALANX Close-In Weapon System, Radar Principles, and Fire Control Tracking courses.

Mobley has devoted more than 200 hours of his time serving as a "Dad" advisor for the International Order of Demolay. He is also pursuing a bachelor's degree at Roger Williams University. Mobley is a native of Charlotte, N.C., who enlisted in the Navy in 1981.

The Instructor of the Year program recognizes individuals who personify excellence and serve with dedication and professionalism as Navy instructors.

SECNAV visits cruiser *USS Hue City* in Med

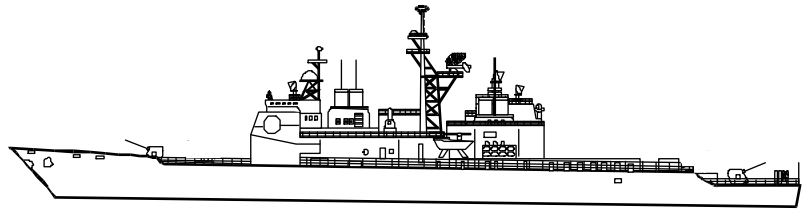
USS HUE CITY (NWSA) — Secretary of the Navy John Dalton visited the guided missile cruiser *USS Hue City* (CG 66) May 27. *Hue City* is currently deployed to the Mediterranean with the *USS John F. Kennedy* (CV 67) Battle Group.

While touring the ship, Dalton congratulated the crew for winning CNO's Community Service Award for three consecutive years, and he emphasized the importance of the battle group, the ship and each Sailor's

job while forward deployed in support of U.S. national interests.

The Secretary lauded the high quality of personnel he has met during his tenure as the Navy's highest-ranking official. Dalton told

the crew that the recently completed Quadrennial Defense Review (QDR) preserves opportunities for career Sailors, and that career-minded Sailors will not be forced to leave the Navy just to meet QDR manpower levels.



Samuel Eliot Morison Supplemental Scholarship Program established

WASHINGTON (NWSA) — The Director of Naval History has established the Samuel Eliot Morison Naval History Supplemental Scholarship Program to promote development of a broad understanding of naval history within the American national experience.

The scholarship was named in honor of the late RADM Samuel Eliot Morison, an eminent naval and maritime historian and Pulitzer Prize winning author. The scholarship provides a \$3,000 cash award to a selected active duty commissioned officer of the U.S. Navy or U.S. Marine Corps with demonstrated leadership potential and high academic qualifications, who is already pursuing graduate study in history, international relations or a related field.

To apply for academic year 1997-98, submit a letter of application via your commanding officer to the Senior Historian, Naval Historical Center, Bldg. 57, Washington Navy Yard, 901 M. Street, SE, Washington, DC 20374-5060.

Applications must be received by July 31 and include the following information:

The Director of Naval History will make final selection of the Morison Scholar and an alternate by Aug. 15. Additional information is in OPNAVNOTE 1520.

Naval Reserve recognizes efforts in retention, people programs

courtesy of Naval Reserve Force Public Affairs

NEW ORLEANS (NWSA) — Naval Reserve Echelon IV commands with the best people programs and retention results received the prestigious Golden Helm Award for retention excellence.

The Surface Readiness Command award went to Naval Reserve Readiness Command Region 13 (REDCOM 13), Great Lakes, Ill.; the Air Activity winner was Naval Air Facility, Washington, D.C.; and the Air Wing award went to Helicopter Wing Reserve (HELWINGRES), San Diego.

Advancement opportunities in FY98 set by law

by LT Lydia Robertson, BUPERS Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NWSA) — Higher than expected retention rates and fewer retirements have resulted in a delay in advancement until FY98 for some E-7's frocked to E-8 during the current advancement cycle.

All FY97 cycle 149 E-8 selectees will be advanced no later than Oct. 16, according to NAVADMIN 125/97. Time in rate for all those selected by the FY97 cycle 149 E-8 and E-9 board will remain July 1, 1996, in order to not affect opportunity and timing for future career progression.

The majority of the Sailors selected for advancement to E-8 and E-9 will be advanced as planned by June 1997. However, because of a lack of E-8 and E-9 retirements and fixed limits set by law, advancements of some E-8 selectees must be held until vacancies occur in the fleet. United States Code Title 10 requires that the average daily E-8 and E-9 end strength be limited to 2 percent and 1 percent of the enlisted force, respectively. Frocked personnel are not included in the number.

The June 1997 E-8 advancement increment will be realigned and monthly increments announced based on vacancies, the same as officer promotions for O-4 and above. When the vacancies occur, the Navy will advance as many as the law allows.



E-8 selectees from the FY98 cycle 153 selection board are already being frocked; they will advance in monthly increments as soon as all selectees from the FY97 cycle 149 board have been advanced. There will be no change for cycle 149 E-9 selectees, who will be paid within the regular pay cycle. FY98 cycle 153 E-9 selectees will begin normal advancement incrementation in July.

Obligated service requirements for advancement to senior chief petty officer for retirement purposes will be computed from June 16, 1997, the last regular increment of FY97 cycle 149.

This does not affect TAR, canvasser recruiter and selected reserves.

TRICARE dental plan rates change Aug. 1

AURORA, Colo. (NWSA) — The monthly premium for the TRICARE Active-duty Family Member Dental Plan will increase Aug. 1.

The rate for a single enrollment will go up from the present \$7.19 per month to \$7.64. A family enrollment that now costs \$17.97 per month will be \$19.09.

Active-duty service members will see the premium increase reflected in

their July Leave and Earnings Statements. Families who are signed up for the plan by their military sponsors on or after July 1 will be enrolled at the new rate.

The scheduled premium increases were proposed by the present contractor, United Concordia Companies, Inc., in its initial bid for the contract, to cover expected increases in program costs. The new premium amounts are still less than those that went into effect in April 1993,

when the dental plan's benefits were expanded.

The monthly premium that active-duty service members have deducted from their paychecks represents 40 percent of the total premium cost for the plan. The other 60 percent is picked up by the government.

For information about the dental plan call United Concordia Companies, Inc., toll-free number 1-800-866-8499.

CNO at Tinker

(cont'd fm. pg. 1)

contribution that's made from right here at Tinker."

Admiral Johnson thanked the entire Tinker AFB team for its support of the Navy and for their accomplishments as a joint team. "You can feel it when you step off the airplane, you can see it everywhere you go, and it works," said Johnson.

"I dare say there will come a time when this kind of organization becomes the way we are going to do business on lots of bases. It makes great sense, and I thank the Air Force and I thank the community for what you do for the Navy and the country."

Admiral Johnson also had the opportunity to meet with Sailors from the VQ squadrons based at Tinker and tour an E-6A TACAMO (Take Charge and Move Out) aircraft and associated maintenance and training facilities.

This week in Navy History

June 4, 1942:

Battle of Midway began.
It was the turning point of the war in the Pacific.

SECNAV dedicates new C4I facility in Naples

NAPLES, Italy (NWSA) — Secretary of the Navy John H. Dalton on May 27 officially opened the new Command, Control, Communications, Computers and Intelligence (C4I) building in Capodichino, Italy.

Part of the Naples Improvement Initiative, the state-of-the-art C4I complex hosts 11 commands and approximately 900 personnel previously located at Naval Support

Activity Agnano.

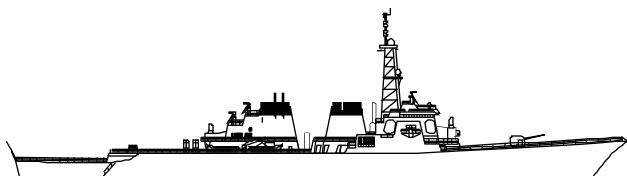
"Today's ceremony is not just to cut a ribbon and open a building," said RADM John R. Ryan, Commander, Fleet Air Mediterranean. "It's about opening the 21st Century. The Secretary of the Navy has come here to officially open this building and give everyone a key to the future."

Dalton said, "This construction project,

and the others that are part of the improvement initiative, stands as a visible testament to our commitment to this community. Since becoming Secretary of the Navy, my number one priority has been to improve the quality of life for our men and women who have put their lives on the line in defense of our great nation."

Dalton saw quality of life improvements in action the previous day when he visited the Aversa Support Site. "We were very impressed. It's of very high quality, both in the layout and the construction," he said. "Having the housing and schools just across the street from one another will be great for our people. The plans we have for the hospital, the Exchange and across the board really make it a premier facility in terms of quality of life."

Gates finishes "Linked Seas 97"



MEDITERRANEAN SEA (NWSA) — *USS Thomas S. Gates* (CG 51) recently completed the first significant military training exercise in its current deployment to the Mediterranean Sea. "Linked Seas 97" was a large scale effort off the coasts of Portugal and Spain involving forces from NATO member nations and Brazil.

The exercise plan for "Linked Seas 97" included an integrated training phase, a tactical exercise phase and a non-combat evacuation operation phase.

During the tactical exercise phase, *Gates*

served as anti-air warfare commander, monitoring hundreds of square miles of airspace and managing air defenses for a 30-ship allied force. Spanish mili-

tary aircraft acted as the aggressor force. After three days of "enemy" harassment, the action shifted to simulated engagements between the two forces.

The last phase was a non-combat evacuation exercise simulating the rescue of friendly civilians from a hostile area. *Gates* provided air defense for the landing forces and coordinated naval surface fire support for Marines practicing an opposed amphibious landing.

USS Thomas S. Gates is part of the *USS John F. Kennedy* (CVN 67) Battle Group.

Notable Quotable

"The first two evacuations were conducted from the hotel in Freetown. This evacuation was conducted about three miles south [of Freetown] at a beach called Lumley Beach. As you know," he said, "we have the flexibility to go almost anywhere in the world with a shore line. We were able to move those evacuees down to [a safer location]."

- Marine COL Sam Helland, 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit commander

Navy, Air Force introduce joint training aircraft

PENSACOLA, Fla. (NWSA) — Navy and Air Force training commanders announced at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, that the military's new Joint Primary Aircraft Training System (JPATS) aircraft has been named the "T-6A Texan II."

The original T-6 was considered to be one of the best advanced pilot trainers used during WWII and on into the early 50's. The Navy version was known as the SNJ. The Army-Air Force version was called the AT-6.

The T-6A Texan II replaces the Navy T-34 and the Air Force T-37 trainers for entry level pilot and navigator training programs. All primary pilot and naval flight officer training feeding into all

advanced pilot and naval flight training programs will use the T-6A.

The advantages of the T-6A Texan II over the current T-34 and T-37 aircraft include flexibility to accommodate a wide range of pilot candidate physiques. It has a pressurized cockpit, ejection seats, enhanced bird strike protection, electronic flight instrumentation and a digital cockpit display.

The Navy will begin training with the T-6A Texan II in 2003 at Naval Air Station Whiting Field, Milton, Fla. The aircraft will also be used to train flight students at NAS Pensacola, Fla., and NAS Corpus Christi, Texas. Initial deliveries to the Air Force are scheduled to begin in mid-1999. The initial contract calls for 711 aircraft. The Navy will receive 339 aircraft and the Air Force will receive 372.

250th anniversary of the birth of John Paul Jones

WASHINGTON (NWSA) — The U.S. Navy will commemorate the 250th birthday of John Paul Jones on July 6. As an officer of the Continental Navy during the American Revolution, Jones set standards of honor, courage and commitment that continue to serve as hallmarks of service for today's Sailors.

Jones was born in a gardener's cottage in Kirkbean, Scotland, in 1747. He first went to sea at age 12 and became a merchant shipmaster by the time he turned 21. He moved to Virginia in 1773 and secured a lieutenant's commission in the Continental Navy in December 1775.

In the summer of 1777 he was given command of a new 18-gun sloop, *Ranger*, and in early 1778 took the war to the enemy's

homeland in a series of daring raids along the English coast. He led the crew of the 42-gun frigate *Bonhomme Richard* in their stunning victory in a furious night battle over the larger English frigate *HMS Serapis*.

Throughout his career, Jones championed the development of professional standards and training for American naval officers.



Important dates for personnel

WASHINGTON (NNS) — The Bureau of Naval Personnel (BUPERS) is reminding Sailors of upcoming selection boards, application deadlines and other dates that are important for Navy men and women.

June 2 Transfer/Redesignation board convenes

CMC/SEA board convenes

NJROTC Officer board convenes

NJROTC Enlisted board convenes

June 3 Active E-7 board convenes

June 9 MCPON final selection board convenes

Reserve O-4 Medical Corps board convenes

June 14 Flag Day

June 15 Father's Day

Evaluations due for E-4

June 16 Reserve O-4 Line board convenes

June 19 Restricted Line Major Acquisition Command Screen board convenes

June 23 Aviation Major Command board convenes

June 30 TAR Transfer/Redesignation board convenes

Mid-term counseling for W-2, W-1 (active); and O-2, O-1, W-2, W-1 (reserve).

July 4 Independence Day

July 7 Reserve E-7 board convenes

Dental Corps Duty Under Instruction board convenes

Applications for Seaman to Admiral program due to Pers-251

July 14 Intel Commander Sea Admin Screen board convenes

July 15 Periodic evaluations for E-3/2/1.

July 21 Active O-3 Line board convenes

July 22 Test Pilot board convenes

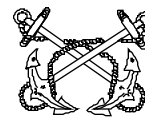
July 23 Major AIMD board convenes

July 28 Reserve Aviation Commander Command board convenes

July 29 O-4 Continuation board convenes

July 31 Periodic fitreps due for O-8, O-7, O-6 (active and reserve).

Mid-term counseling for O-3 (active).



NAVY-MARINE CORPS NEWS

Navy/Marine Corps News is a videotaped newscast for Navy/Marine Corps fleet and shore units. The next Navy/Marine Corps News (program #723) includes the following stories:

USS Kearsarge Sailors and Marines rescue Americans from Sierra Leone

CNO visits Sailors in Oklahoma

USS Cowpens wins Spokane Trophy for excellence in combat systems

New York City hosts the Navy/Marine Corps team during Fleet Week

Marines Battle Color Ceremony

Sailors clean up park in Harlem

Harlem Youth Marines beat Fleet Week Marines in softball game

Research Vessel Atlantis helps Sailors avoid stormy weather

Seabees train to build while under fire

Biathlons: a fun and challenging sport for Sailors and Marines

USO brings rap artist MC Lyte to Sailors, Marines in Italy, Crete

MOVIE CALL: "Fathers Day"

We need your input on Navy/Marine Corps News, so call our FEEDBACK LINE at (202)433-6108 (DSN 288), or write us at the address mentioned below, or email us at <nmcn@mediacen.navy.mil>. All Navy/Marine Corps News tapes must be returned each week. Please use the return label enclosed with the tape.

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